

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 88TY1286	FOR FURTHER ACTION	
International application No. PCT/IB2004/002307	International filing date (day/month/year) 16/07/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 25/07/2003
Applicant TOYOTA JIDOSHA KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the drawings,

a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 4a

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PC1. B2004/002307

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G01M17/007 G07C5/00
--

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01M G07C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT
--

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 383 593 A (HITACHI LTD) 22 August 1990 (1990-08-22)	1,17,19, 20,22-24
Y	column 2, line 29 - column 4, line 19 column 7, line 9 - column 9, line 19; figures 1-3 column 11, line 25 - column 2, line 21; figure 6 ----- -/-	2,5,6, 10,11

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/11/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Trique, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/002307

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 330 499 B1 (CHOU PAUL BAO-LUO ET AL) 11 December 2001 (2001-12-11)	1,17,19, 20,22-24
Y	column 1, line 34 - column 2, line 2 column 2, line 30 - line 43; figure 1 column 4, line 2 - column 6, line 38; figure 3 column 7, line 63 - column 8, line 59; figure 4 -----	2,5,6, 10,11
A	EP 1 087 343 A (RENAULT) 28 March 2001 (2001-03-28) column 6, line 15 - column 8, line 44; figures 1,2 -----	1,2,17, 20,23
A	WO 90/09645 A (WARNERDALE LTD) 23 August 1990 (1990-08-23) abstract; figure 1 -----	1,2,17, 20,23
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 0113, no. 02 (M-629), 2 October 1987 (1987-10-02) & JP 62 094443 A (NISSAN MOTOR CO LTD), 30 April 1987 (1987-04-30) abstract -----	1,2,17, 20,23
A	EP 0 718 614 A (SEL ALCATEL AG ; ALCATEL NV (NL)) 26 June 1996 (1996-06-26) the whole document -----	1,2,17, 20,23

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US2004/002307

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 0383593	A 22-08-1990	JP	2215951 A		28-08-1990
		JP	2574892 B2		22-01-1997
		DE	69020179 D1		27-07-1995
		DE	69020179 T2		25-01-1996
		EP	0383593 A2		22-08-1990
		KR	157057 B1		18-02-1999
		US	5157610 A		20-10-1992
US 6330499	B1 11-12-2001		NONE		
EP 1087343	A 28-03-2001	FR	2799034 A1		30-03-2001
		EP	1087343 A1		28-03-2001
WO 9009645	A 23-08-1990	WO	9009645 A1		23-08-1990
JP 62094443	A 30-04-1987		NONE		
EP 0718614	A 26-06-1996	DE	4446512 A1		27-06-1996
		EP	0718614 A2		26-06-1996
		JP	8233696 A		13-09-1996